IN THE UNITED AT TEST ATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

AOKI et al.

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Serial No.

10/571,063

Group:

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March 8, 2006

Examiner:

Unknown

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Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

All listed documents are attached.

⊠ Copies of U.S. Patent Publications are not required and are not attached.

X Listed foreign patent publications and other documents are enclosed.

The partial translations were provided to the undersigned by the applicants' foreign representative. The undersigned has no knowledge regarding the pertinency of the partially translated portions vis-á-vis the document as a whole. The partial translations are merely provided for whatever convenience they may be.

☑ U.S. Publication 2003/0052836 corresponds to the JP 2003-161912 references; U.S. Patent 6,611,243 corresponds to the JP 2002-514788 reference; and U.S. Patent 6,195,140 corresponds to the JP 11-101992 reference.

This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

By:

Respectfully submitted, NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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September 20, 2006

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